

# MoveMe South Africa Series Synopsis

South Africa is rich with culture, diversity, joy, kindness, ambition and laughter. Armoured with resilience and united by the commitment to building a brighter future.

MoveMe South Africa will share the untold perspectives from the Bushbuckridge community, navigating through the complexities of life and inviting in new ways of being. The series explores the interwoven threads of life, love and land. MoveMe South Africa breaks down borders, enabling unity and connection. Experience the taste of Africa while following an uplifting journey where communities come together and care for each other's basic human rights and needs.

MoveMe South Africa will bring you:

A place of uncomfortable truths and the purest of joy.

A place undefined by pain but by community, vision and hope.

A place of community with hope where visions come to life.

We have been shown the joy and the light of the people of South Africa. They have shared their dreams of the future. The world is now waiting to listen.

An introduction to the people we will meet and follow throughout the season. Introducing Briana Evigan and how she moved to Bushbuckridge after six years of travel back and forth from Los Angeles to Africa.

Briana meets the undeniably raw talented Phila Dlozi. In discovering his music Briana learns his story; his struggle, his difficult upbringing and how music has kept him alive. We see how he has dedicated his life to sharing his power with many through music. He lives to create music and can't live without it.

The episode also highlights environmental issues and introduces the first Abundant Village, those that will make the project come to life, be self-sufficient and create regenerative benefits. The final key storyline is that of the rhino poaching crisis. We explore all perspectives from the bottom of the supply chain, those searching for food and water, to kingpins and syndicates to Kruger National Park's Head Ranger Cathy Dreyer.

Each episode in the pilot will end with someone's life being changed in one way or another to bring joy and inspiration to many. Phila gets an offer to fly to the US and work with critically acclaimed music producer Jason Evigan

# Series Pilot The Roads That Bought Us Here



# **Episode 1: The Rising Kingdom**

Briana will travel to Mozambique with the new king to set up the history of the Shangaan Royal Family and the role they will play throughout the season.

Together they will unravel the story of war and conflicts that led to the creation of borders and communal turmoil.

They will cross back over the border into South Africa, bringing with them the remains of the Shangaan King who died in exile. He will be laid to rest in the royal burial grounds in Bushbuckridge seen in the pilot. We will cover issues between the family, villages and government in bringing the new King to the throne.

The episode will feature Mzee, Jabu, the King's closest aide Mike, the King and his 28-man council. Setting up this history and the people involved demonstrates the permissions needed across the board to bring MoveMe into action and how difficult some of this will be.

## **Episode 2: Potential to Abundance**

This episode will dive deep into the process of creating our first Abundant Village and our broader impact programs. Featuring discussions with the work of Stuart, Molly, Jabu and Mayor Sylvia, we will cover our projects in motion.

First up, a Sports Day event established in the pilot, as we bring in surprise star athletes to inspire young talent. We follow the journey of a youngster from the community in their dream to becoming a sporting champion while Abundant Village helps make it a reality.

Watch how we build resources together on the ground while bringing in support from our friends around the world to establish food, water, and energy security.

The story is told through the eyes of a child to see how they feel about food and water scarcity while they transition from scarcity into security.

# Episode 3: I'm Every Woman

What happens when women are key decision makers? In a post-aparthied South Africa there is still much work to be done to achieve gender parity. Yet, women are moving quickly in every area of life when given the opportunity. They are resilient and powerful.

In this episode, we will follow how Mayor Sylvia is creating her legacy and how this work impacts the community intergenerationally. We will revisit Cathy to learn how she manages the constant struggles and turmoil of protecting the wildlife. Briana will meet Sho Majozi, the brightest star in South African pop music and continue the anthem of African soul through music.

From hanging out with Gogo (Grandma) Annah to social impact and tourism entrepreneurs we will be introduced to Lisa Goosen and Liz Biden, to see how women across industries and nations are acting locally and engaging globally.

# **Episode 4: A Seat at Our Table**

Everyone is invited! An evening of storytelling. Time to explore the tastes of Africa. Starting with a visit to Gogo Annah, she will teach us about the traditional foods from South Africa and the Shangaan culture.

While experiencing these great tastes we will find out what has changed over time, and see how food helps us reconnect through our stories. We will learn more about the food and water insecurity of the region and how Abundant Village can play a role in ensuring health and wellness for all.

The episode will feature a huge celebration, a braai (Traditional South African Bar-B-Que) and banquet fit for a King. This is a table you want to be at and are invited to recreate with your community.

A Seat at Our Table reminds us that we are all more similar than we think, no matter where we come from. Tonight you will see everyone from season one at this table. To impact a society, we do not need to build walls, we need to add more seats to the table.

# **Episode 5: Everyone's Effort Matters**

In this episode, we explore new perspectives, heading out into the bush with Royal Malewane's Master Trackers. We also visit with their Canine Patrol Units and dig even deeper into the social and economic conflicts of the region.

As we know, there are no easy solutions to the significant challenges of poaching, unemployment or food and water scarcity.

We will explore all sides of these complex stories and understand how everyone's efforts matter. From our interview with an ex-poacher who wants to be an inspiration to his children by becoming a legitimate businessman, to the Royal Portfolio Foundation team working within the community to uplift education and health.

We will touch on the difference between private game reserves and Kruger National Park. With no right or wrong answers, you'll get to see for yourself where the money goes and whose approach is most impactful.

# **Episode 6: Celebration of Talent**

MoveMe South Africa is here to move you. Whether through uncovering truth or talent.

This episode is one big celebration. Non-stop music, special performances, and connecting talents from South Africa to internationally acclaimed artists.

Featuring Mzee, Phila, Miles, Kudzai, Mzizi, South Africa's pop sensation Sho Majozi, and global producers like Jason Evigan. Following Phila's invitation to go and record in LA, our hopes for the big surprise of offering him a record label deal is in place and revealed.

A huge festival-style performance to bring everyone together in one space.

Nothing better than food, live art, music, dance and so much more.





# **Episode 7: Restorative Justice**

What does justice look like? We are living in a world where social justice and climate justice are at the forefront of our minds, so what can the world learn from what is happening in Bushbuckridge? Why is South Africa the most dangerous place in the world to be a woman? With government and tribal justice systems working in parallel to each other, let's find out what's most effective.

We follow Mayor Sylvia in her work to ensure her communities are cared for and thriving and revisit our ex-poacher to learn more about the decisions of his past and how we can help safeguard vulnerable people from the same fate.

Can changes be made or is inequality a 'just is' situation? If you can ensure everyone has their basic needs met, through Abundant Village, what would the world look like then? Let's find out.

# **Episode 8: Abundance to Inherit**

Let's turn all our eyes to the wildlife in all of its beauty. Do we create a lasting ripple of change throughout the world like the tiniest flap of a butterfly's wings? Do we tread lightly like the elephants, run together like the wild dogs or reconstruct the world around us like the termites?

Spending more time with Cathy Dreyer we gain greater insights into the lengths we must all go to in our own ways to protect, defend and serve the abundance around us, from the community to our keystone species. Can a poacher and a ranger ever see eye to eye? Can we change the equation so that poachers have choices and animals have long lives?

We take Gogo on her first game drive ever and see South Africa alive. She comes home and tells the children about the experience. We understand how we can all play a part in making the world a better place, to take action on what moves us. Whether that be nature, music, art, or people, in this closing episode, we ask what abundance do you want to gift to the world.

# Series Main Characters

# Briana Evigan Narrator

### Jabu Zwane

Original Villager, Impact Producer

Jabu was born and bred in Islington village right on the banks of Kruger National Park, Mpumalanga in South Africa. Islington is a village rich in culture under the leadership of Chief Mnisi in Bushbuckridge. Jabu is involved in several community development projects including Jeff Maluleke Music Academy. The project sparked so much interest in the media business for Jabu that he saw an opportunity to narrate stories to the community with an aim to bridge the gap between the Kruger National Park and the surrounding villages.

He uses the advantage of his solid business experience and has started a media company where he now focuses on documentary films, radio and studio recording.

### Mzilikazi Wa Afrika

Original Villager, Shangaan Prince, Music Supervisor

Mzi is an investigative journalist and record producer from Sibambayane Village in Bushbuckridge, Mpumalanga, South Africa. He is a cultural activist who has been awarded two international scholarships to study in the UK and USA for the recognition of his outstanding achievements in the field of journalism and is currently working on his second and third books The Ugly Ones Are So Beautiful and No Devils Left in Hell. He is the author of the bestselling memoir, Nothing Left to Steal.

Mzilikazi ventured into the film industry in 2019 as Head of Script for the box office hit movie, Blessers, a South African comedy. He also created the scoring of the movie and produced the film's entire soundtrack.

### Phila Dlozi

Musician

Phila Dlozi is a 24-year old singer-songwriter from KwaZulu Natal who the world needs to hear sing. His talent was discovered by his now manager Kudzai Mueriwa while he was busking in Johannesburg in early 2021. After experiencing homelessness and the suicide of a close friend, Phila understands more than most the struggles faced by many people around the world. Phila is wholly committed to his music and believes that to share his talents with the world is his purpose in this life.

## Mayor Sylvia Nxumalo

First Female Mayor of Bushbuckridge Municipality

We will be working with Mayor Sylvia to build Abundant Village and support her in reducing unemployment in Bushbuckridge.

She is passionate about supporting women and the youth of Bushbuckridge, to create opportunities. During the Covid-19 pandemic she notably set up relief support for women run enterprises and small scale agriculturalists.

### **Cathy Dreyer**

First Head Female Ranger of Kruger National Park

Taking on a 3-year role in late 2020 she is determined to make a difference to both the communities she serves and the wildlife under her care.

She is the recipient of the Tusk Award for Conservation in Africa. Having rehabilitated a black rhino in Addo National Park she has an intimate understanding of the nuances of the rhino poaching crisis and how solutions can be implemented to benefit all.

MoveMe Studio develops inspiring media that compels action, creates lasting change and uplifts the human spirit.

Traditional docuseries focus on an issue and a region where it is filmed. Often, the profits stay with the investors, studio, talent, lawyers, distributors and others. Rarely are the profits shared in a meaningful way with locals or communities. MoveMe is different.

Once all the expenses are paid and the investors have been repaid, 50%\* of the net profits will be shared in a meaningful way with the people, communities and regions where the media is created.

\*30% of net profits go to investors as an on going dividend and 20% remain with MoveMe.

# MoveMe Studio

As part of our commitment to lasting change we have created a new model for media impact campaigns. We have created Abundant Village; a resource-rich set of solutions providing water, food and energy security, education, housing, wellness care and job opportunities.

Our pilot village will be created and run locally in Bushbuckridge where the MoveMe South Africa docuseries is set. Business, technology and environmental resources will be sourced locally or through the MoveMe network to find existing, cost-effective solutions that can scale to meet the needs of small and large communities alike. Abundant Village can be an economic engine for a community to increase health, wellness and prosperity.

We are kick starting Abundant Village outreach programming with a series of sports day clinics for 60-80 local school children. They will receive specialist coaching from well-known athletes, education on health, wellbeing and careers in sport. Our first Sports Day will be in Q1, 2022. We will then run these events every other month scaling to serve more students from more schools throughout the region.



# **Key Creative Personal**

# Briana Evigan

### **Executive Producer**

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Briana started out as a dancer, singer, and musician landing her first major feature debut as the star of the box office hit Step Up 2: The Streets in 2008, and reprised her role in a 2014 instalment of the franchise, Step Up: All In. She also played starring roles in a number of films, including Sorority Row, S. Darko, and Burning Bright.

She is most excited about her upcoming completed films, Just Below Sunset, Love Is All You Need? and Love and Communication.

Briana's innate sense of duty compelled her to be a part of the solution to the challenges faced by people and the planet; to find a way to bring the resources and networks of the entertainment industry to the wider world.

She has fronted countless campaigns, fundraisers, speaking events, and mission trips, all of which have affirmed Briana's allegiance to animal advocacy, ultimately positioning her as a global voice of authority in this space.

A gifted storyteller, and 15-year veteran of the entertainment business, Briana has founded MoveMe Studios with business partner Stuart Newton. Briana's move to South Africa has been 6-years in the making.

# **Stuart Newton**

### **Executive Producer**

A 35-year veteran of Silicon Valley, Stuart currently leads Business Development for the middle market group of a Big 4 accounting firm. During his career in sales, sales leadership and business development, he has closed more than \$150M in revenue for his employers and clients. Stuart co-founded Unfair Advantage, a revenue acceleration company helping clients increase revenue in a shorter period of time. There, he refined his skills in understanding product-market fit and creating multiple revenue streams to help clients meet and exceed revenue targets.

His true passion is making a positive impact in the world. He is bringing his business acumen to support worthwhile social impact projects. Stuart has an extensive network of social impact leaders, other solution-driven to visionaries to create Abundant Village.

Stuart is a mentor to more than a dozen business and social impact leaders. His ability to craft self-sufficient business models enables those he works with to scale their projects beyond the traditional approach of donors and grants. Other than being a great dad, being a great husband is his favorite way to spend time.

# Jonathan Gray

### **Project Advisor**

Jonathan Gray has been practicing law for nearly three decades, and is a partner at the NYC based entertainment law firm Gray Schwartz LLP. Jonathan is highly regarded in the independent film community as an attorney, producer, and advisor to filmmakers, producers, financiers, and distributors. He has acted as production counsel on noted documentary films including One Child Nation (2019 Sundance Documentary Grand Jury Prize); American Factory (2019 Sundance Documentary Directing Award); and Life, Animated (2016 Sundance Documentary Directing Award; 2017 Academy Award Nomination for Best Documentary Feature); as well as seminal independent narrative films such as The Station Agent, Black Swan, and Precious, providing filmmakers with legal and creative consultation from acquisition of rights through delivery to the distributors. His producing credits include Blue Caprice (2013 Sundance); Words with Gods (2014 Venice International Film Festival); Nightingale (HBO - 2015 Primetime Emmy Nomination for Outstanding Television Movie); and Dark Night (2016 Sundance). A former adjunct professor at Columbia University School of the Arts, Gray earned his J.D. from Fordham University School of Law.



# Directors

# Sara Blecher

### **Director 3 Episodes**

An award winning documentary and fiction film director/producer known for OTELO BURNING which won over 17 international awards and was named by CNN as one of the top ten African films of the decade.

Sara is co-founder of Real Eyes Films, which shares innovative documentaries and drama series including the International Emmy Nominated ZERO TOLERANCE. Other noteworthy documentaries for Curious Pictures and the SABC's Award winning current affairs program where she worked as a journalist and senior producer. Awards for her documentaries include the Safta, best documentary for SURFING SOWETO, and in 2003, a CNN's African journalist of the year award in the Arts and Culture category for KOBUS AND DUMILE, among others. She has also worked with BBC, WGBH, Channel 4 and NBC.

Under her leadership, the mission at SWIFT has been to advocate for gender parity and intersectionality, both in front of and behind the camera. Sara's work at SWIFT includes working to provide professional support and development, mentorship, and networking opportunities to its members as well as advocating transformation so that screens in South Africa may reflect all voices and a true diversity of perspective.

# Maynark Kraak

### **Director 3 Episodes & Series Producer**

Maynard Kraak is an ex-SA Navy Officer and SA Police detective who worked in the notoriously dangerous Cape Flats all before making the seismic shift to film and television. Over a period of 13 years in television production, Maynard directed and produced over 300 broadcast hours of drama series and sitcom series, while also directing and producing three short films, the last of which, CRAZY PICKLES, was at the Cannes Film Festival in 2010.

Maynard was also Head of Development for Stark Films, one of South Africa's largest drama production houses. He founded West Five Films, where his first film was VROU SOEK BOER, that out performed international box office hits. His latest two feature films THE LAST VICTIMS and BHAI'S CAFE are currently enjoying an extended festival run. Maynard's focus is on commercial material that has redeeming social qualities.

# James Boon

### **Director 2 Episodes**

Growing up in the African bush, James' passion for wildlife and the outdoors culminated into his love for telling stories through beautiful pictures in the art of film.

James' work has been featured on internationally acclaimed wildlife documentary programmes for the BBC, featuring David Attenborough: Extinction Facts. He has been key creative personnel for The Story of God with Morgan Freeman for National Geographic, and the 'Survivor' series for CBS, in addition to dozens of productions for The Discovery Channel and NBC.





# Budget Breakdown

Foreign tax incentive up to 30%

PILOT COMPLETED at \$100,000

Season One Total Budget: \$1,297,000

\$162,142 budgeted per episode for 8 episodes not including the pilot.

\$162,142 per episode is inclusive of post-production if completed in South Africa







# Move Me Will Move Us. What Moves You?



Contact:
Briana Evigan
briana@moveme.studio